

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**  
**held on Wednesday, 19 October 2005 at 7.30 p.m.**  
in the Village Hall, Abbots Bromley, pursuant to notice having been given

**Present:** Cllrs: PJ Charles (Chairman), C Cook, L Fox

**Also present:** EA Roy (Clerk)

**Apologies:** Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs DT Eatough, AE Elkington, RT Esling, RSV Jarman, KA McLoughlin, J Needham and also received from Borough Councillor Fox.

**Members of the public attending:**  
Kim Briscoe (Uttoxeter Advertiser)

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**Minute 58: Public Session**

The Chairman welcomed the member of the press present. As there were no members of the public present, no public session was held.

**Minute 59: Minutes of previous meeting**

***RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted.***

**Minute 60: Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest in the items on the agenda.

**Minute 61: Matters arising and matters of report**

**61.1 Circulated documents:** No issues.

**61.2 Fidelity guarantee:** After consultation with SPCA, the Clerk has asked the insurers to include Councillors in the fidelity guarantee cover. It covers the eventuality where the Clerk leaves, or is unable to work, and a Councillor acts as RFO in an interim period. We are advised there will be no additional cost in the current year.

- 61.3 Repayment of ESBC deposit:** ESBC require a letter signed by Chair and Clerk confirming details of the resolution passed, together with details of the bank account the money is to be paid into.
- 61.4 Warden consultation:** Although our possible interest has been reported to Donna Meredith-Wood, ESBC are at an early stage in their planning and will not be in a position to visit Councils until after the New Year. Any proposals that come out of the consultation would be implemented from April 2007 and so will not affect budget preparations in January 2006.
- 61.5 Bogus caller prevention:** The Clerk reported that arrangements were now in hand to provide copies of the relevant items for use in the village.
- 61.6 Community Transport:** The Clerk reported that items were going into the Parish News and newsletter asking if anyone would like to take on the role of co-ordinator.

## Minute 62: Planning

### 62.1 Applications

**429 - HR/30246/001: Land adjacent B5013:** Removal of a 45m section of hedgerow  
Received: 13/10/05 Replied: 20/10/05 Response: The Parish Council raises no objections to this application.

**430 - HO/01298/008: 1 Swan Lane:** Erection of rear conservatory  
Received: 17/10/05 Replied: 20/10/05 Response: The Parish Council raises no objections to this application.

***RESOLVED: That the Clerk communicate these responses to the local planning authority.***

### 62.2 Decisions

The following applications have been **AGREED** subject to stated conditions

**421 - LB/10967/027: Churchfields House, Bagot Street:** Installation of satellite dish

**422 - HO/30104/001: 67 Seedcroft Lane:** Erection of two storey side extension and single storey front and rear extensions

**423 - PA/08499/018: Adjacent Village Hall, Bagot Street:** Erection of replacement clubhouse, store and mower shed

**424 - TN/24638/006: Sonoma, Mires Brook Lane:** Pruning of one willow tree

No applications have been **REFUSED**

No applications have been **REVISED**.

No applications have been **WITHDRAWN**.

### 62.3 Correspondence and other planning matters

- 62.3.1 The Clerk reported that an appeal has been made by Dr Slater against the refusal of outline planning permission for erection of a detached dwelling on field 5565, Heatley Lane. Any comments we wish to make must be with the Inspector by 25th November 2005.

- 62.3.2 The Clerk reported receipt of a copy of a letter from ESBC Planning to Mr Pratt, Harts Farm. It advises that Prior Approval of the proposed erection of an agricultural building for the storage of animals and fodder will not be required.
- 62.3.3 The Clerk introduced a letter from Lichfield District Council inviting the Parish Council to participate in the creation of their Local Development Framework. After a short discussion it was concluded that the Council cannot participate effectively in the formation of their LDF, and the Clerk was asked to decline further involvement by the Parish Council.
- 62.3.4 The Clerk reported that a date for an informal hearing of the Redrow Homes appeal had been set for 10am on 31 January 2006 at Burton Town Hall.
- 62.3.4 The Clerk reported that following enquiries about the removal of poplar trees at The Croft, he had been informed by the ESBC Tree Officer that this had not been prohibited.

## Minute 63: Financial Matters

### 63.1 Budget report

The Clerk introduced a budget report for the end of Quarter 2 comparing forecast and actual income and expenditures. The report included a number of recommendations for changes to the budget to respond to current needs.

**RESOLVED: That the report be accepted and the proposed budget changes made.**

### 63.2 Financial report

The Clerk introduced the financial report for October 2005 and reported that a grant of £150 from the Footpaths Society has been received towards the cost of the notice board.

**RESOLVED: That the statement be approved and the Chairman sign the report.**

### 63.3 Report on payments made since the last meeting

The Clerk reported that no payments had been made since the last meeting.

### 63.4 Bills to pay

The Clerk introduced the following for payment:

Vch/Chq	Payee	Amount	Details	Powers
44/710	AB Village Hall	11.25	Steering Group meeting	[Vital Villages]
45/711	Penny Ward	130.76	Village Agent salary/expenses	[Vital Villages]
46/712	Abbots Bromley PCC	376.69	Grant towards new heating	[RISES]
47/713	Public Works Loans A/C	1661.27	VH loan repayment	LGA 1972 Sch 13
48/714	Audit Commission	293.75	Audit fee	ACA 1988 s.7
49/715	E A Roy	367.28	Clerk's salary/expenses	LG(FP)A 1963 s.5 LGA 1972 s.112(2)
50/716	Central Networks	81.39	Repairs to floodlight timer	PCA 1957 s.3
	<b>TOTAL payments</b>	<b>2922.39</b>		

**RESOLVED: That these payments be made.**

### 63.5 Section 137 payments

The Clerk introduced the following requests and proposed payments under section 137:

<i>Vch/Chq</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Details</i>
51/717	AB Royal British Legion	30.00	Remembrance day wreath
52/718	AB First Responders	1000.00	Towards cost of new Lucas gas operated CPR
	<b>TOTAL payments made</b>	<b>1030.00</b>	

The Clerk introduced a letter from Community First Responders outlining their aim to acquire a new piece of equipment.

**RESOLVED: That the Council, in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should make the above payments which are, in the opinion of the Council, in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure.**

### 63.6 Other financial matters

63.6.1 Playground bark: The Clerk introduced a summary of his investigations into the amount, sources and costs of bark to replenish the safety surface at the Millennium Green play area.

**RESOLVED: That 10 cubic metres be acquired from Woodgrow as soon as possible to top up the bark. A further purchase could be planned for the next financial year.**

## Minute 64: Group Reports

### 64.1 Recreation

The Clerk reported that he had placed an order with Universal Play to carry out the required remedial work on the multi-play at the Millennium Green and to supply yellow paint.

The Clerk reported on two conversations with Mr Duckitt concerning the Nuttery, and that it seemed there was still no progress on achieving transfer of the access strip to the Parish Council.

### 64.2 Village Property

The Clerk reported that problems with the timer on the church floodlighting appear to have been resolved by Central Networks without them supplying a quotation in advance. The Chairman noted that the lights had not been on earlier in the evening and suggested that confirmation of repair be obtained before releasing payment.

A draft letter to the landlord of the Goat's Head was introduced by the Clerk and it was agreed that this should be sent and also a similar letter to EFVS asking them not to display vehicles for sale in that area.

### 64.3 Traffic, Parking, Highways

The Clerk reported that he had received a letter outlining the new organisation of County Highways and separately, copies of the Local Transport Plan Annual Progress Report and Provisional Plan. These were distributed to Councillors.

Cllr Cook reported that a malfunction of the speed gun had been rectified by fitting new batteries. He also said that he was waiting a response from the police (Inspector Mason) as to their views on permanent signing for Community Speedwatch.

#### **64.4 Competitions**

There was a discussion of ideas for a Best Kept Village project including a new bench seat for the Swan Lane corner, trees or a bog garden for the conservation area. The Clerk reported that a circular seat under the oak tree on the green would cost at least £1000. It was agreed to defer a decision until the following meeting.

#### **64.5 Newsletter**

The Chairman reminded members that items for the newsletter were to be with Cllr McLoughlin by the start of November. There was a short discussion of the merits of moving to a fixed schedule of copy/publication dates.

#### **64.6 School Governor's Report**

There was no report in the absence of Cllr Eatough.

#### **64.7 Village Plan**

The Clerk reported that a meeting of the Village Action Group was taking place the following Tuesday evening.

#### **64.8 RISES**

Cllr Fox reported that the new boxes may reduce the volume re-cycled through the skips at Schoolhouse Lane, but the skips will be retained. A piece in the next news will be used to clarify the benefits of using the skips.

#### **64.9 Village Hall**

Cllr Cook reported that he had missed the last meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee but Cllr Fox reported that the committee were very appreciative of the Parish Council grant towards the cost of the drive repairs.

### **Minute 65: Correspondence, bulletins and reports**

- 65.1 The Community Council of Staffordshire have asked for help with the Staffordshire Consortium of Infrastructure Organisations (SCIO) questionnaire. They invite the Council to respond and also to pass on the questionnaire to another organisation in the village that could do the same. Cllr Fox offered to deal with this.

### **Minute 66: Quality Council application feedback**

- 66.1 The Clerk introduced a letter from SPCA containing feedback from the County Accreditation Panel on our application for Quality Council status, together with an analysis of these comments and some possible courses of action.
- 66.2 Following a discussion of the recommendations, it was decided to increase the type size of the minutes but to retain the record of public sessions within them. The Clerk agreed to work with Cllr McLoughlin to try and establish a schedule for the newsletter which could be publicised to potential contributors. It was noted that involvement of more Councillors in a re-application could help to avoid overlooking qualities that the Council should include.

### **Minute 67: Parish Council surgeries and future dates**

- 67.1 The Chairman reminded members that there was a surgery booked for 10-11 am on Saturday 26 November which he could not attend. Cllr Fox offered to be present.

- 67.2 The Clerk introduced a list of proposed meeting dates for 2006:
- January: 11 (Budget) 25      February: 22      March: 29
  - April: 26      May: 10 (Assembly), 24      June: 28
  - July: 26      September: 27      October: 25
  - November: 29

The following dates were proposed for surgeries:

- January 21, March 25, May 20, July 22, September 23, November 25

**Minute 68: Items for agenda of next meeting**

Budget preparation

*(Provisional date for a preparatory meeting 13 December – Cllrs Charles, Eatough, Elkington, Fox and the Clerk to attend)*

Best Kept Village prize project

Representation at the Redrow Homes appeal hearing

Model Protocol for Councillor/Clerk Relations

**Minute 69: Date, time and place of next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting should be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 30 November 2005 in the Memorial Room at the Village Hall.

The Meeting concluded at 21:23 pm.

Chairman .....

Date: .....